**REMARKS** 

Claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 21 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 21 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 10 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 10 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending in the present application of which claims 1 - 15, 18, 19 and 19 are pending application 10, 10

10, 12 and 19 have been withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claims 12, 18 and

21 have been amended and claim 14 has been cancelled. No new matter has been added. It is

respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated June

14, 2004.

Allowable Claim Subject Matter:

Claims 11, 13 and 15:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication in item 8 of the Office Action that

claims 11, 13 and 15 have been allowed.

Claim 18:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication in item 9 of the Office Action that claim

18/(11, 13, 14, 15) would be allowable, if amended, to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C.

§112 second paragraph. As discussed below, claim 18 has been amended to overcome the

rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph. Accordingly, claim 18 is now believed to be

allowable.

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Claim 12:

In addition, Applicants gratefully appreciate the Examiner providing suggestive

amendments to claim 12 such that claim 12 will be rejoined and allowed, as set forth in item 10

of the Action, As such, claim 12 has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

Accordingly, it is believed that claim 12 should be rejoined and found to be allowable.

**Claim Objections:** 

Claim 21 is objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.175(c), as being improper dependent form for

failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the

claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the

claim(s) in independent form.

More specifically, the Examiner asserts that "[c]laim 21 recites that the sheet-like mirror

has a shape and dimension that correspondences to a size of a region of observation of a target

object. Such a recitation fails to further limit the subject matter related to the shape of the minor

recited in its base claims 11 and 13 - 15 which each claims recited that the sheet-like mirror has

a rectangular shape."1

<sup>1</sup> Please see, lines 3 - 7, page 3 of the Action.

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However, claim 21 has been amended to further limit only the dimension of the sheet-like

mirror, since as the Examiner points out the shape (rectangular) of the mirror is already defined

in independent claims 11 and 13 - 15. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully

requested.

35 U.S.C. §112 Second Paragraph Rejection:

Claims 14 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for failing to

particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the

invention.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 14 has been cancelled and claim 18 has been amended to overcome this rejection.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants

submit that that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants

request such action at an early date.

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If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the

Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to

expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate

extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect

to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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